

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
 POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
 West Fertilizer Inc. - Removal Polrep  
 Initial Removal Polrep



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
 Region VI**

**Subject:** POLREP #1  
 Initial  
 West Fertilizer Inc.  
  
 West, TX  
 Latitude: 31.8165640 Longitude: -97.0877630

**To:** Sam Coleman , US EPA

**From:** Susan Webster, Section Chief

**Date:** 4/18/2013

**Reporting Period:** 4/17/2013-4/18/2013

**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Background**

<b>Site Number:</b>	<b>Contract Number:</b>	
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	
<b>Response Authority:</b> CERCLA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Response Lead:</b>	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>NPL Status:</b> Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	
<b>Mobilization Date:</b> 4/17/2013	<b>Start Date:</b>	4/17/2013
<b>Demob Date:</b>	<b>Completion Date:</b>	
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>	<b>State Notification:</b>	
<b>FPN#:</b>	<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

**1.1.1 Incident Category**

Emergency Response

**1.1.2 Site Description**

Fire and explosion at a fertilizer formulation facility

**1.1.2.1 Location**

West, Texas

**1.1.2.2 Description of Threat**

To be determined

### 1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

On April 17, 2013 a fire and explosion occurred at the West Fertilizer Company located in West, Texas. Local, state, and federal response personnel have responded to the incident. The U.S. EPA has mobilized personnel to the incident to conduct air monitoring activities upon request from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

The impact of the explosion has impacted an approximate ½ mile radius which includes 50 to 60 structures including residential homes, a nursing home, and a middle school.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

At 2100 on April 17, 2013 the EPA Airborne Spectral Photometric Collection Technology (ASPECT) aircraft conducted an overflight of the facility at an approximate altitude of 800 feet. Ammonia levels during the overflight were detected between 60 to 70 parts per million (ppm) at 600 feet downwind of the incident.

Between 0430 to 0530 on April 18, 2013 the 6<sup>th</sup> Civil Support Team (CST) and Waco Fire Department HAZMAT conducted a Level B entry to deploy air monitoring instrumentation near the incident location.

TCEQ contractors have been deployed and are currently conducting air monitoring. Other state and local responders are conducting search and rescue operations in affected neighborhoods near the incident location.

#### 2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

#### 2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

## 2.2 Planning Section

### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Emergency personnel will continue to conduct search and rescue activities

EPA and TCEQ will conduct air monitoring activities throughout neighborhoods near the incident location

#### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Air monitoring.

#### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

#### 2.2.2 Issues

**2.3 Logistics Section**

No information available at this time.

**2.4 Finance Section**

No information available at this time.

**2.5 Other Command Staff**

No information available at this time.

**3. Participating Entities**

No information available at this time.

**4. Personnel On Site**

No information available at this time.

**5. Definition of Terms**

No information available at this time.

**6. Additional sources of information**

No information available at this time.

**7. Situational Reference Materials**

No information available at this time.